

## Josh Harnack

Josh is a passionate creative and relies on visual art to share his singular vision with the world. As a three times cancer survivor, Josh has unearthed a personal understanding of humanity that he captures with his ever-evolving series of anthropomorphized animals. Josh's works, which aim to reveal the animalistic nature that humans suppress, earned him the Strathcona County Artist Development Grant in 2016.

His latest collection, a commission for the RCMP titled "The Royal Canadian Mammal Police," consisting of five portraits of iconic Canadian mammals—beaver, moose, grey wolf, grizzly bear, and bighorn sheep—posing proudly in RCMP uniforms. Among his many inspirations, Josh lists Michael Godard, Robert Bateman, and the master of surrealism, Salvador Dalí, as his chief influencers

Josh says that his battles with cancer have instilled in him an unwavering motivation to create meaningful, timeless contributions to modern art and the painting medium best allows him to depict life's truth, with a playful mix of surrealism and literalism, abstraction and clarity, and satire and earnestness.

Josh's style incorporates bright, bold colours with soft, intricate brush strokes, usually rendered in acrylic or oil paint on canvas. He hopes that while appreciating the collection, the viewer will not only discover an explanation for human behaviour, but find a reflection of their own inner animal.

